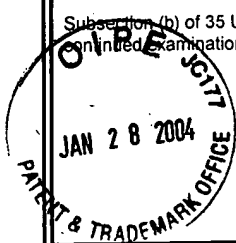


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RCE / 2815

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number	09/577,932
Filing Date	May 25, 2000
First Named Inventor	Shigeyuki, MARUYAMA
Group Art Unit	2815
Name of Examiner	Chris C. Chu
Attorney Docket No.	000663

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1.

Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 previously filed on August 19, 2003
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Preliminary Amendment

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2.

Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

Fees

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 01/29/2004 CCHAU1 00000126 09577932
- ii. ☐ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$770.00 for the RCE is enclosed.

REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

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38834

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty Docket No.

000663

SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name **Michael N. Lau**

Registration No. **39,479** (atty/agent)

Signature

Michael Lau

Date: January 28, 2004

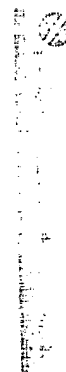
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Shigeyuki Maruyama, et al.**

Confirmation No: **4823**

Serial No.: **09/577,932**

Group Art Unit: **2815**

Filed: **May 25, 2000**

Examiner: **Chris C. Chu**

Customer No.: **38834**

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING AN ALIGNMENT MARK FORMED BY THE SAME MATERIAL WITH A METAL POST**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 28, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

